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21171 7590 07/22/2008

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
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1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

PERRIN, JOSEPH L.

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1792

DATE MAILED: 07/22/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/811,852	03/30/2004	Hyun Soek Kim	1594.1363	2332

TITLE OF INVENTION: DRUM WASHING MACHINE AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING THE SAME

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	10/22/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

21171 7590 07/22/2008

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
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Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or by facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/811,852	03/30/2004	Hyun Soek Kim	1594.I363	2332

TITLE OF INVENTION: DRUM WASHING MACHINE AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING THE SAME

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	10/22/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
PERRIN, JOSEPH L	1792	008-159000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTOSB/122) attached.

"Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY AND STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- Issue Fee
- Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- Advance Order - # of Copies _____

- A check is enclosed.
- Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS; SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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10/811,852	03/30/2004	Hyun Sook Kim	1594.1363	2332
21171	7590	07/22/2008	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005				PERRIN, JOSEPH L.
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1792		DATE MAILED: 07/22/2008		

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 624 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 624 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No. 10/811,852	Applicant(s) KIM ET AL.
	Examiner Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D.	Art Unit 1792

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed 01 May 2008.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4,6-12,19-21,23 and 24.

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

5. Notice of Informal Patent Application

2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment

4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. Other _____.

Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1792

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT & STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Kari Footland on 14 July 2008.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A drum washing machine, comprising:
 - a key input unit receiving an input from a user;
 - a water tub;
 - a rotary tub rotatably provided in the water tub;
 - a detergent feed pipe having a first end connected to the water tub and a second end disposed at an inlet of the rotary tub;
 - a control unit determining whether a detergent used is a powdered detergent or a liquid detergent based on the input from the user; and

a detergent feed unit to feed the detergent contained in the water tub into the rotary tub through the detergent feed pipe, the control unit controlling the detergent feed unit to

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dissolve the detergent before feeding the detergent into the rotary tub in response to a determination from the control unit that the detergent is a powdered detergent;

wherein the detergent feed unit comprises a control unit to drive a pump provided at the detergent feed pipe to substantially dissolve the powdered detergent and then feed the dissolved powdered detergent into the rotary tub.

Cancel claims 2 and 5 (incorporated into claim 1).

6. (Currently Amended) The drum washing machine according to claim [[5]]
1, further comprising:

a detergent dissolution space formed at the detergent feed pipe to temporarily store the detergent; and

a water feed valve;

wherein the control unit opens the water feed valve to feed a set amount of water into the water tub after the powdered detergent is moved into the detergent dissolution space.

9. (Currently Amended) The drum washing machine according to claim [[5]]
1, wherein the control unit drives the pump to reciprocate the detergent contained in the water tub between an inside of the water tub and the detergent feed pipe to dissolve the powdered detergent.

10. (Currently Amended) The drum washing machine according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein the key input unit has a powdered detergent button, the control unit determining whether the detergent contained in a lower portion of the water tub is the powdered detergent according to the powdered detergent button being selected in the key input unit.

12. (Original) The drum washing machine according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein the control unit drives the pump to clean the detergent feed pipe in response to the detergent contained in the water tub being the powdered detergent.

Cancel non-elected claims 13-18.

19. (Currently Amended) A drum washing machine, comprising:
an key input unit receiving an input from a user;
a water tub;
a rotary tub provided in the water tub;
a control unit determining whether a detergent used is a powdered detergent or a liquid detergent based on the input received through the key input unit; and
a detergent feed unit to feed the detergent contained in the water tub into the rotary tub, the control unit causing the detergent feed unit to drive a pump provided at the detergent feed pipe to substantially dissolve the detergent before feeding the

detergent into the rotary tub in response to a determination from the control unit that the detergent is a powdered detergent.

21. (Original) The drum washing machine according to claim 19, ~~further comprising a~~ wherein the pump to reciprocate reciprocates the powdered detergent in and out of the water tub to dissolve the powdered detergent.

Cancel non-elected claim 22.

23. (Currently Amended) A drum washing machine, comprising:
a key input unit receiving an input from a user;
a water tub;
a rotary tub; ~~and~~
a spraying unit; ~~and~~
~~a control unit-causing a pump to dissolve a detergent contained in the water tub in response to a determiningation by the control unit, based on the input received through the key input unit,-that whether the detergent is powdered or liquid, causing a pump to sufficiently dissolve a detergent contained in the water tub in response to the determination by the control unit,~~ and then causing the spraying unit to spray the dissolved detergent into the rotary tub by the spraying unit to soak a center of a laundry load.

24. (Currently Amended) A drum washing machine, comprising:

- a key input unit receiving an input from a user;
- a water tub;
- a rotary tub provided in the water tub; and
- a detergent feed unit;

a control unit making a determination based on the input received from the key input unit as to whether a detergent is a first type of detergent or a second type of detergent and selectively causing the first type of detergent to be dissolved in the detergent feed unit before being fed from the water tub to the rotary tub without being dissolved in the detergent feed unit;

wherein the detergent feed unit comprises a control unit to drive a pump provided at the detergent feed pipe to substantially dissolve the powdered detergent and then feed the dissolved powdered detergent into the rotary tub.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12, 19-21, 23 & 24 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The closest prior art of record, U.S. Patent No. 4,986,093 to PASTRYK & U.S. Patent No. 5,233,718 to HARDAWAY, fails to teach or reasonably suggest the claimed invention. Specifically, PASTRYK & HARDAWAY both disclose a washing machine with water tub, rotary tub, plural detergent supplies, a detergent feed pipe with pump and spraying means. However, PASTRYK & HARDAWAY fail to teach or reasonably suggest the claimed

washing machine with a key input for powdered or liquid detergent, and a control unit which substantially dissolves the powdered detergent by operating a pump in response to the control unit determining that the selected detergent is powdered detergent. For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12, 19-21, 23 & 24 are believed to recite patentable subject matter.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571)272-1305. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael E. Barr can be reached on (571)272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Joseph L. Perrin/
Joseph L. Perrin, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1792

JLP